

payment of the extension fee is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee required for the extension, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

In response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 and 12 as follows. A marked-up version of these claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached. All pending claims, including those that are not amended herein, are set forth for the Examiner's convenience.

B1 SUB C1
~~1. (Twice Amended) A recording medium provided with an ink-receiving layer on at least one surface of a substrate, wherein said ink-receiving layer is composed of a porous layer comprising pigment particles and mutually fused thermoplastic resin particles that have been fused with no particle structure left, and wherein the thermoplastic resin particles and the substrate are fused.~~

2. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein a porous outermost layer comprising thermoplastic resin particles is provided on the ink-receiving layer.

3. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said substrate is card-shaped.

4. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said pigment particles are composed of alumina hydrate.

5. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polyvinyl chloride resin.

6. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polystyrene resin.

7. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is composed of a polycarbonate.

8. (Not amended herein) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is composed of a terephthalic acid-ethylene glycol-cyclohexane dimethanol copolymer.

9. (Not amended herein) An image forming process comprising the step of forming an image by ejecting an ink by an ink-jet recording method onto the recording medium according to claim 1.

10. (Not amended herein) An image forming process comprising the steps of:

forming an image by discharging ink by an ink-jet recording method onto the recording medium according to claim 2, and

rendering said outermost layer transparent.

11. (Not amended herein) The image forming process according to claim 9, wherein a coloring material of the ink is a pigment.

12. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a recording medium comprising the steps of:

applying to a substrate a coating liquid comprising pigment particles and thermoplastic resin particles;

forming an ink-receiving layer by fusing and adhering the thermoplastic resin with heat under pressure;

and

fusing the thermoplastic resin particles and the substrate.

B2
Sub
2e1

13. (Not amended herein) The process for the preparation of a recording medium according to claim 12 comprising further the step of:

forming an outermost layer, after the ink-receiving layer has been provided.